

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
WEEK OF 11/16/17

MAJOR MILESTONE REPORT

Confirmed Dates:

Likely in November

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Likely in December

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- Issue permit modification public notice for the Landfarms Closure Plan at the Hovensa Refinery, St. Croix, USVI.
(CASD – Nidal Azzam)

Likely in January

not responsive

CLEAN AIR AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

Hot Issues:

not responsive

Past Week:

not responsive

Limetree (formerly HOVENSA) Conference Call: On November 8, CASD and ORC held a preliminary discussion with Limetree about its intention to restart part of the old HOVENSA operations. Its refinery operations, except for the gasoline terminal, were idled in 2012. Since idling the operations in 2012- Limetree is required by the VI Government to review its options regularly to restart the idle facility. Limetree is now considering to process 130,00 to 180,000 barrels of crude oil to produce fuel for marine vessels for sale in South America. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) regulations- published in 2016- require that marine vessels begin using 0.5% sulfur fuel by January 1, 2020 (in the U.S. Emission Control Area (ECA)- 200 miles within the coastline- sulfur limit is 0.1%). The current IMO sulfur limit outside the ECA is 3.5%. Limetree intends to restart crude processing and fuel desulfurization plant at the St. Croix site in about 12 to 18 months. This will result in restarting about 1/3 of the previous (2011) operations. Note that in 2011- HOVENSA processed about 500,000 barrels of crude per day. Limetree believes that it has a short window to begin producing the IMO compliant marine fuel and capture the market in South America. Limetree may not have to construct any new equipment- and its existing equipment could be made ready to operate within next 12 to 18 months. In a few weeks, Limetree will send its detailed proposal and asking EPA's advice whether it should approach this restart issue via a Consent Decree or a Permit modification. Limetree believes that its restart will not fall under the Reactivation policy since they always intended to restart the plant. They plan to use 2011 base line emissions to net out of PSD review. There is also no plan to install any new emission unit. The restart processes will comply with any NSPS Ja (for Sulfur Recovery Units) requirements.

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Upcoming:

not responsive

CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Hot Issues:

not responsive

This Week:

not responsive

not responsive

CLEAN WATER DIVISION

Hot issues:

not responsive

Chang)

Past Week:

not responsive

not responsive

not responsive

Upcoming:

not responsive

Other Items of Special Interest:

not responsive

DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

Hot Issues:

not responsive

not responsive

Past Week:

not responsive

not responsive

Division of Environmental Science and Assessment

Hot Issues:

not responsive

not responsive

Upcoming:

not responsive

Other Items of Special Interest:

not responsive

EMERGENCY REMEDIATION AND RESPONSE DIVISION

Hot Issues:

not responsive

not responsive

Past Week:

not responsive

Upcoming:

not responsive

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

No Highlights this week

OFFICE OF REGIONAL COUNSEL

Hot Issues:

Hurricane Irma/Maria:

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Past Week:

not responsive

Upcoming:

not responsive

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

Past Week:

not responsive

not responsive

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION

Hot Issues:

not responsive

Upcoming Week:

News Releases for next week or two:

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